

CONTACT:
Christina Kellogg 510.643.6714
ckellogg@calperformances.org
Joe Yang 510.642.9121
jyang@calperformances.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 3, 2011

**ON A DOUBLE BILL, GRAMMY AWARD-WINNING MUSIC MEN
BRANFORD MARSALIS AND TERENCE BLANCHARD
BRING THEIR BANDS TO ZELLERBACH HALL
ON FRIDAY, MARCH 11 AT 8:00 P.M.**

BERKELEY, February 3, 2011—Jazz masters **Branford Marsalis**, saxophone, and **Terence Blanchard**, trumpet, come to Cal Performances with their respective ensembles on **Friday, March 11 at 8:00 p.m.** at Zellerbach Hall. Three-time Grammy award winner Marsalis is one of the country's most revered jazz artists, both for his musical brilliance and generous musical spirit. His quartet, the **Branford Marsalis Quartet**, is one of the longest tenured jazz quartets in the world; the musicians are **Eric Revis** on bass, **Joey Calderazzo** on piano, and recently added 19-year-old Berklee student, drummer **Justin Faulkner**. Sharing the double bill with Marsalis is five-time Grammy winner Blanchard, a respected trumpeter and composer "with abundant talent" (*Wall Street Journal*). Blanchard will bring his quintet of new talent consisting of tenor saxophonist **Brice Winston**, Cuban pianist **Fabian Almazan**, drummer **Kendrick Scott**, and bassist **Joshua Crumbly**, an 18-year-old Juilliard student.

BRANFORD MARSALIS

Branford Marsalis comes from one of the industry's most distinguished musical families which includes his father—patriarch, pianist, and educator Ellis—and siblings Wynton, Delfeayo and Jason. The Marsalis family was recently honored by the National Endowment for the Arts with the first 2011 Jazz Masters Group Award Fellowship, the nation's highest honor bestowed on jazz musicians. The family released a new album in 2010 called *Music Redeems* on the Marsalis Music label.

Branford attended The Berklee School of Music and gained initial acclaim through his work with Art Blakey's Jazz Messengers and his brother Wynton's quintet in the early 1980s before forming his own ensemble. His ever-searching creative explorations have led to a dynamic range of recordings: jazz with his own groups, sophisticated pop with artists like Sting and Bruce Hornsby,

-MORE-

jazz and hip-hop with Buckshot LeFonque, and classical music with ensembles such as the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra.

Marsalis has recorded several albums, three of which have won Grammy Awards: Best Jazz Instrumental Performance for *I Heard You Twice The First Time* (with guests B.B. King, John Lee Hooker, and Wynton Marsalis) in 1993; Best Pop Instrumental Performance in 1994 for “Barcelona Mona,” a single recorded with Bruce Hornsby for the Olympics in Spain; and 2001’s Best Jazz Instrumental Album for *Contemporary Jazz*. In addition to his productivity in the studio and on the stage, Marsalis has also composed scores for television and film, hosted radio shows, (NPR’s *JazzSet*), and taught at Michigan State, San Francisco State, Stanford and North Carolina Central universities.

Marsalis has also made his mark as a record producer, and in February 2002, formed the record company Marsalis Music, to provide a home for committed creative musicians. The label’s first release was Marsalis’s *Footsteps of Our Fathers*; the Quartet has released five additional albums on the label. The Quartet’s latest release in 2009, *Metamorphosen*, was pronounced a “nine-song masterwork” by *Billboard*. Marsalis Music’s latest album *Music Redeems* was released August 2010. All proceeds from the album support the Ellis Marsalis Center for Music, an education center and heart of the New Orleans Musicians’ Village, founded in 2005 following Hurricane Katrina by Marsalis and Harry Connick Jr.

TERENCE BLANCHARD

Like Marsalis, **Terence Blanchard** was born and raised in New Orleans, Louisiana. He began studying the trumpet at eight years old after hearing Alvin Alcorn play with a jazz band at his school’s assembly. Known as a gifted trumpeter, he is also a bandleader, arranger, and film-score composer, winning critical acclaim and several prestigious awards.

During his high school years, Blanchard studied at the New Orleans Center for Creative Arts and later went on to study jazz at Rutgers University. While at Rutgers, he toured with the Lionel Hampton Orchestra and in 1982, Blanchard joined Art Blakely’s Jazz Messengers as trumpet and musical director. He has performed with many influential jazz musicians including Donald Harrison,

-MORE-

Mulgrew Miller, and Wynton Marsalis and was a key figure in the 1980s Jazz Resurgence. Blanchard is also a film composer and has collaborated with several directors, in particular, Spike Lee. He has scored all of Lee's movies beginning with *Jungle Fever* in 1991 and including *Malcolm X* (1992) and *When the Levees Broke* (2006). He has composed over 40 scores in total, making him the most prolific jazz musician to ever compose for movies.

Blanchard has been nominated for Emmy, Golden Globe and Grammy awards and has won five Grammy awards: Best Jazz Instrumental Performance in 1984 for *New York Scene*, Best Jazz Instrumental Album for *McCoy Tyner's Illuminations* in 2004, Best Large Ensemble Album in 2007 for *A Tale of God's Will (A Requiem for Katrina)*, his first Grammy as a bandleader, Best Jazz Instrumental Solo in 2008 for "Be-Bop"; and his most recent in 2010 for Best Jazz Instrumental Solo for "Dancin' 4 Chicken".

In the fall of 2000, Blanchard was named artistic director of the Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz at the University of Southern California. Blanchard continues to serve as artistic director although the Institute was relocated from Los Angeles to Loyola University in New Orleans in 2007.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for **Branford Marsalis**, saxophone, and **Terence Blanchard**, trumpet on **Friday, March 11 at 8:00 p.m.** in Zellerbach Hall are priced at **\$28.00, \$36.00, \$44.00, \$52.00** and **\$60.00**. Tickets are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at www.calperfs.berkeley.edu; and at the door. Half-price tickets are available for purchase by UC Berkeley students. UC faculty and staff, senior citizens and other students receive a \$2 discount, and UC Alumni Association members receive a \$3 discount (Special Events excluded). For more information, call Cal Performances at (510) 642-9988, or visit the Cal Performances web site at www.calperfs.berkeley.edu.

#

Cal Performances' 2010/11 Season is sponsored by Wells Fargo

KDFC is media sponsor of the 2010/11 Season

#

CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Friday, March 11 at 8:00 p.m.

**Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley Campus
Bancroft Way at Telegraph, Berkeley**

Jazz

Branford Marsalis Quartet

Branford Marsalis, saxophone and leader

Terence Blanchard Quintet

Terence Blanchard, trumpet and leader

Program: Grammy Award-winners Branford Marsalis and Terence Blanchard bring their jazz ensembles for an evening of modern jazz.

Tickets: \$28.00, \$36.00, \$44.00, \$52.00 and \$60.00, available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at www.calperfs.berkeley.edu; and at the door.

-30-